

**LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (original) A method for optimal Short Message Service (SMS) encoding in a wireless communications device having SMS capabilities, the method comprising:
  - evaluating a wireless device resource encoding requirement for an SMS message in the wireless device;
  - selecting an optimal encoding format for the SMS message in response to evaluating the wireless device resource encoding requirement for an SMS message in the wireless device;
  - encoding the SMS message in response to selecting the optimal encoding format; and,
  - storing the encoded SMS message in wireless device memory.
2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein evaluating a wireless device resource encoding requirement for an SMS message includes identifying an encoding format available in the wireless device and usable for encoding the SMS message.
3. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein identifying an encoding format available in the wireless device and usable for encoding the SMS message includes determining the number of bits needed to represent characters in the usable format.
4. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein evaluating a wireless device resource encoding requirement for an SMS message in the wireless device includes determining a memory usage requirement of the SMS message.

5. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein selecting an optimal encoding format for the SMS message in response to evaluating the wireless device resource encoding requirement for an SMS message in the wireless device includes selecting the encoding format that encodes the SMS message with a minimum memory usage as the optimal encoding format.
6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein selecting the optimal encoding format includes selecting seven-bit ASCII as a default optimal encoding format.
7. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein evaluating a wireless device resource encoding requirement for an SMS message in the wireless device includes evaluating an English-language SMS message;  
wherein identifying an encoding format available in the wireless device and usable for encoding the SMS message includes:  
identifying seven-bit ASCII, ISO Latin 1, and Unicode formats as usable;  
and,  
determining the number of bits needed to represent characters in the seven-bit ASCII, ISO Latin 1, and Unicode formats; and,  
wherein selecting the encoding format that encodes the SMS message with a minimum memory usage as the optimal encoding format includes selecting seven-bit ASCII.
8. (original) The method of claim 5 further comprising:  
inputting the SMS message to a Mobile Origination enabled wireless device via a user interface; and,  
transmitting the stored SMS message.
9. (original) The method of claim 5 further comprising:  
receiving the SMS message via a transceiver; and,  
presenting the stored SMS message on a user interface.

10. (currently amended) A method for optimal Short Message Service (SMS) encoding in a wireless communications device having SMS capabilities, the method comprising:

- evaluating a wireless device resource encoding requirement for an SMS message in the wireless device;

- identifying ~~an~~ a plurality of encoding formats available in the wireless device and usable for encoding the SMS message responsive to the evaluation;

- determining the number of bits needed to represent characters in the usable formats;

- determining a memory usage requirement of the SMS message without encoding the SMS message;

- selecting the encoding format that encodes the SMS message with a minimum memory usage as the optimal encoding format, the selection being made responsive to determining the memory usage;

- encoding the SMS message in response to selecting the optimal encoding format; and,

- storing the encoded SMS message in wireless device memory.

11. (original) A system for optimal Short Message Service (SMS) encoding in a wireless communications device having SMS capabilities, the system comprising:

- an optimizing subsystem with an input to accept an SMS message, an input to accept an evaluation control signal, and an output to supply an optimizing signal responsive to the SMS message encoding requirements; and,

- an encoding subsystem with an input to accept the SMS message, an input to accept the optimizing signal, and an output to supply the SMS message in a format responsive to the optimizing signal.

12. (original) The system of claim 11 wherein the evaluation control signal identifies encoding formats available in the wireless device and available encoding format parameters including the number of bits needed to represent characters.

13. (original) The system of claim 12 wherein the optimizing subsystem evaluates the SMS message to identify available encoding formats usable for encoding the characters, wherein the optimizing subsystem determines a memory usage requirement, wherein the optimizing subsystem selects as the optimal encoding format a usable format with a minimum memory usage, and wherein the optimizing subsystem supplies the identity of the optimal encoding format in the optimizing signal.

14. (original) The system of claim 13 wherein the encoding subsystem encodes the SMS message in the optimal encoding format and supplies the encoded SMS message at an output.

15. (original) The system of claim 14 wherein a memory circuit has an input to accept the encoded SMS message for storage and an output to supply the stored SMS message.

16. (original) The system of claim 15 wherein the wireless device is Mobile Origination enabled and the optimizing subsystem accepts the SMS message from a user interface; and,

wherein a transceiver has an input to accept the stored SMS message from memory for airlink transmission.

17. (original) The system of claim 15 wherein the transceiver accepts an airlink communication including an SMS message;

wherein the optimizing subsystem accepts the SMS message from a transceiver; and,

wherein a user interface has an input to accept the stored SMS message for presentation.

18. (original) The system of claim 15 wherein the encoding subsystem uses seven-bit ASCII as a default optimal encoding format.